

The Heterodyne

Newsletter of the West Valley Amateur Radio Association

January Meeting

**My DXpedition Adventures
By John Miller, K6MM**

**Wednesday January 11
Meeting Starts at 7pm**

Meeting Location:
American Red Cross,
Silicon Valley Chapter
2731 N. First Street at Plumeria Dr
(southwest corner) in San Jose

Map at www.wvara.org/meetings.html

WVARA Repeaters (W6PIY)		
Band	Frequency	PL
6 Meters	52.580- MHz	151.4 Hz
2 Meters	147.39+ MHz	151.4 Hz
1.25 Meters	223.96- MHz	156.7 Hz
0.70 Meter	441.35+ MHz	88.5 Hz
0.23 Meter	1286.2- MHz	100 Hz

Club Net

WVARA's club net is on the W6PIY repeaters each Tuesday at 8:30 pm. All repeaters are linked together during the net. The net script can be found at www.wvara.org/net.html.

Visitors Are Welcome!

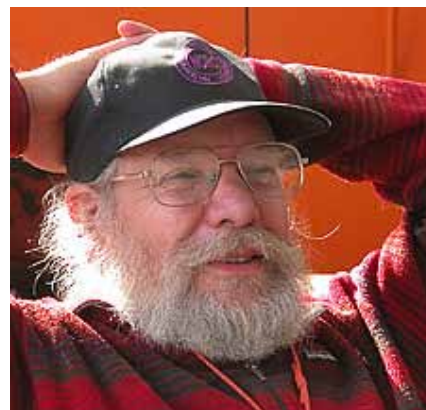
President's Letter

The State of the Club

The good news is that the club is attracting new members. Thirteen joined last year. They are bringing new ideas and energy to the club. We should try to attract even more new members in this coming year.

Financially we are still a bit tight but not in trouble. The budget Peri, KI6SLX will propose at the January meeting is in balance by a few dollars, but we will have to meet our revenue goals to avoid a deficit at the end of the year. We have enough reserves to cover some deficit this year, but we can't run on our reserves forever. It would help if everyone who attends club functions would pay their dues. Dues are payable now for 2017 year. They can be paid in person to Peri or through PayPal. Use the links on the <http://www.wvara.org/membership.html> web page.

We are joining with the Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association and the Foothill Amateur Radio Association in sponsoring a banquet on January 20. Please join us. Sign up at <https://www.fars.k6ya.org/events/banquet>. And bring your WVARA name badge.



We are continuing to look for ways to increase use of our repeaters. We are close to offering a repeater with Internet linking to see if people want this feature. The initial rollout will not be on W6PIY, but on a different 440 repeater on loan from Dave WB6KHP. If members like this feature, we will add it to W6PIY.

For those looking for conversation, Svend usually is on the 2M repeater early in the morning, before I get up, and between 3:30 and 4:00 PM. Give him a shout.

We are again increasing our activity schedule. Our meeting schedule will remain the second Wednesday of every month with a holiday dinner in December. Our picnic will happen again this year. We have a number of operating events coming up. Bobby, KA4VBF is planning a club effort in the January ARRL VHF contest January 21-23. Come to the January meeting or contact him for details. Our old standby, Field Day, returns June 23-25. The California QSO Party is scheduled for October 7-8. Jim, K6EI is working on a location in Mendocino County overlooking the Pacific. We might do an Asian contest from there. The photos show a really beautiful location. Stay tuned as plans firm up for these events.

Its going to be a fun year.

73 Bill AE6JV

New Members

*The following new members
joined WVARA recently:*

Mark Douglas, Jr, KM6FLC

Erik Yost, KM6GVO

Welcome!!!

FARS Annual Winter Banquet - January 20 - Signup Soon!

We have been invited to join the Foothill Amateur Radio Society (FARS) for their annual winter banquet on **Friday, January 20, 2017** at Michael's restaurant in Shoreline park. I had a lot of fun last year and intend to go again this year.

The speaker will be Dr. Robert Schmieder, KK6EK, who will talk about the VK0EK Heard Island DX-pedition. FARS Board approved \$1,500 of raffle prizes to be given away. The banquet is open to all hams and significant others.

The FARS web site has a banquet page at <http://www.fars.k6ya.org/events/banquet>. Signups can be either online, using Paypal/credit card, or by USPS mail.

73 Bill AE6JV

New FM Transponder in Space

www.arrl.org/news/new-amateur-radio-fm-transponder-cubesat-now-in-space

Meeting Topic - January 11

My DXpedition Adventures

By John Miller, K6MM

CQ DX Hams!

It's time for another WVARA meeting. Please join us this Wednesday (Jan 11) at 7pm in Meeting Room 5 at the Silicon Valley Chapter of the American Red Cross, 2731 N. First Street at Plumeria Drive (southwest corner) in San Jose. Most of us come in through the side entrance on the southwest side of the building — look for our red WVARA sign on the side where they park all the Red Cross trucks. Cookies will be served, and of course visitors are welcome!

If you haven't been to the Red Cross, "talk-in" is usually available on the Association's repeaters. Best choice would be 2m/220.

For dinner this month, if you're interested in joining at 6pm, we'll be going to Ume Chinese Fast Food, 2595 N 1st St, which is only a block or two from the Red Cross.



John will give us an eye-witness account of last year's Pacific Island DXpedition to Palmyra Atoll. This was a rare opportunity to spend some time in paradise. Cooper Island on Palmyra is overseen by The Nature Conservancy, a national wildlife refuge. Also the site of a double murder in 1974.



John was first licensed as WV2BQJ in 1958 while living in Syracuse, NY. In 1976, John's career took him to Silicon Valley, where he reconnected with amateur radio in the late 90s.

73,
Bobby
KA4VBF

WVARA Net Check-Ins (W6PIY)					
Tuesdays at 8:30 PM					
Call Sign	Name	12/13/16	12/20/16	12/27/16	01/03/17
Total		17	17	15	17
AB6XS	Kevin		X		X
AE6JV	Bill		X	X	X
AF6AE	Bill		X		
K6BIB	Bodan				X
K6BRF	Bert		X	X	X
K6KWW	Kent	X	X	X	
K6SCC	Brian				X
K7RJV	Rex	X	X	X	
KF6EMB	Svend	X	X		X
KF6IRE	Tim			X	
KI6SLX	Peri	X	X	X	X
KJ6CQJ	Dean	X	X		
KJ6GMO	Sue	X	X		
KJ6ZZI	Michael	X	X	X	X
KK6HWN	Paul			X	
KK6VF	Kevin	X	NET	NET	NET
KM6ABF	Scott				X
KM6AMR	Scott		X		
KM6DAC	Cameron	X		X	X
KM6FDD	Lloyd	X			
KM6GNC	Bob	X			
KM6GVO	Eric	X		X	
N6FYR	Matt	X	X	X	X
N9CU	Andy		X	X	X
W6IA	Mark	X	X	X	X
W6PK	Phil	X			X
W9KKN	Bill	X			X
WB6KHP	Dave	NET	X	X	X

Tony Bamberger, N6TYG, SK

With great sadness we report the passing of WVARA member Tony Bamberger, N6TYG. Tony, wife Becky N6TYG, and daughters Cari KC6JTV and Mindy KC6KVY have remained club members since moving to Washington state. Our deepest condolences to the family.

BOD Meeting January 4, 2017 7PM

Attendees: Bill Frantz AE6JV, Peri Frantz KI6SLX, Dave Schultheis WA6KHP, Jim Peterson K6EI, Jon Kelley K6WV, Bobby Barnett KA4VBF, Kevin Smith KK6VF, Phil Verinsky W6PK, Chuck Kamas AD6CL, Svend Jensen KF6EMB, Bill Ferhing W9KKN

- Discussion about usage of Email lists – Peri would like a way to contact members-only, perhaps a new email list. A look at a token/response system will be done by Bill W9KKN to provide security while keeping current list system intact.
- A small group will consider changes desirable to the Website – both functionality and the look and feel.
- Discussion about desirability of becoming a 501(C)(3) corporation. This would allow tax deductible donations to be made to us but carries its own issues. This is worth considering so Peri to do some further investigation and report to BOD.
- Bylaws – The discussion about re-incorporation and a few other items leads to the thought that we need to investigate the current state of bylaws and look into revamping to ensure we are in compliance. Bobby will take the initial steps on this.
- How to keep better connected with other Ham Radio groups in our area? Our attendance at FARS banquet is good. Also, we could invite FARS/PAARA to our picnic. BOD members will attend other group's activities at least once a year and share short comments at the general meeting.
- Repeater status – All the repeaters are up and running except the new 220 repeater is suffering a de-sense issue which is being investigated and we are working on this issue with the vendor, Bridgecomm. The 6M repeater is working but we are still in progress on improving performance. The 440 repeater may need some attention to the antenna to improve coverage. Luckily, “Santa Claus” left a new antenna that can be installed – thanks to members for that donation.
- At the last BOD meeting it was decided to do a repeater experiment with IRLP (Based on a spare system that Dave WA6KHP had available). That has been occurring and we need a presentation to the general club about this. A possible goal is to add this capability to our standard repeater setup.
- Should our repeaters be fully linked normally rather than our current system of linking? The consensus was we should try linking all systems together as an experiment until the next BOD meeting as it can always be undone if there's a problem.
- Discussion about how to bring more people in to the club and / or keep the interest of current members? What is the value-add of being a member of WVARA?
Operating activities – As we have access to property on the north coast. Suggestion that we participate in a DX contest focused on Asia or Oceania, ex. All Asia. Perhaps RTTY/PSK contests. Aside from operating contest we need to further explore this topic.
- 2017 Budget
We reviewed Peri's recap of 2016 and proposed 2017 budget. We approved the budget as discussed and modified. Peri will present the budget to the membership at the next General Meeting for ratification.
- Motion made and carried to extend Life Membership to Larry Goodwin

Adjourned 9:19PM Jon Kelley K6WV, WVARA Secretary

2016 Year End Treasurer Report

Here are the 2016 financial reports, and a proposed budget for 2017.

The 2016 Activity report shows how we spent our money, and how that spending compares to the 2016 budget. It provides separate results for the Association and the repeater.

The 12/31/2016 Position report shows how much we had at the end of the year. The Equity section of this report shows how our asset are split between general club activities and the repeater.

The proposed 2017 budget was reviewed by the BOD at their Jan 4th meeting and will be presented to the membership for acceptance at the general members meeting on Jan 11. Please review it and let me know if you have any questions. You can email me at Treasurer at wvara.org.

Analysis of 2016 Results.

We ended 2016 having spent \$953.59 more than we took in. This deficit was occasioned by rebuilding the club's tower trailer, a \$979.71 expense. Without this expense we would have been up \$26.12 for the year despite a budget that predicted a \$373 loss. Fortunately, we had enough money in the bank to cover this deficit. The only other large expense was \$1150 for the purchase of a new 220 repeater, which was covered by the excess repeater funds accumulated in prior years.

Overall, 2016 went well financially. We brought in substantially more dues than budgeted, and a little more on the flea market, and we controlled spending. Although we were able to use the accumulate surplus from prior years to cover the unexpected expenses, we did end the year with reduced Net Assets, a practice we should not continue. The proposed budget, which includes a contingency amount for the unexpected, is positive overall, despite being mildly negative for the repeater side.

Peri Frantz, KI6SLX
treasurer at wvara.org

[illegible]

WVARA										
Activity: Actual vs. Budget			41,277.00							
January through December 2016										
	WVARA Total			Association			Repeater			
	Jan - Dec '16	Budget	\$ Over Budget	Jan - Dec '16	Budget	\$ Over Budget	Jan - Dec '16	Budget	\$ Over Budget	
Income										
4200 — Misc. Income	0.44			0.44						
4100 — Program Income										
4110 — Membership Dues										
4111 — Indiv. Assn. (\$15)	690.00	450.00	480.00	690.00	450.00	480.00				
4112 — Indiv. Repeater (12)	396.00	250.00	308.00				396.00	250.00	308.00	
4113 — Fam. Assn. (\$20)	240.00			240.00	0.00					
4114 — Fam. Repeater (\$18)	162.00						162.00			
Total 4110 — Membership Dues	1,488.00	700.00	788.00	930.00	450.00		558.00	250.00	308.00	
4150 — Flea Market Receipts	3,809.15	3,500.00	309.15	3,809.15	3,500.00					
Total 4100 — Program Income	5,297.15	4,200.00	1,097.15	4,739.15	3,950.00					
4800 — Donations	213.00			213.00	0.00					
Total Income	5,510.59	4,200.00	1,310.59	4,952.59	3,950.00		558.00	250.00	308.00	
Expense										
5300 — Flea Market Expenses	2,552.56	2,400.00	152.56	2,552.56	2,400.00					
5100 — Administrative Expenses										
5110 — Finance Fees Paid	39.34	90.00	(50.66)	39.34	90.00	(50.66)				
5120 — Insurance	322.00	322.00		322.00	322.00	0.00				
5140 — Web Hosting Expense	59.40	115.00	(55.60)	59.40	115.00	(55.60)				
5150 — PO Box Rental	70.00	66.00	4.00	70.00	66.00	4.00				
5160 — Officer Awards	29.33	30.00	(0.67)	29.33	30.00	(0.67)				
5190 — Misc. Expense		25.00	(25.00)	0.00	25.00	(25.00)				
Total 5100 — Administrative Expenses	520.07	648.00	(127.93)	520.07	648.00	(127.93)				
5200 — Membership Expenses										
5240 — Summer Picnic	85.00	75.00	10.00	85.00	75.00	10.00				
5230 — Holiday Party	423.05	500.00	(76.95)	423.05	500.00	(76.95)				
5210 — Badges	98.00	30.00	68.00	98.00	30.00	68.00				
5220 — Meeting Expenses		25.00	(25.00)	0.00	25.00	(25.00)				
Total 5200 — Membership Expenses	606.05	630.00	(23.95)	606.05	630.00	(23.95)				
5500 — Program Expenses										
5520 — Field Day Expenses	392.58	500.00	(107.42)	392.58	500.00					
5530 — CQP Expenses		25.00	(25.00)	0.00	25.00					
5540 — Misc. Expenses	979.71			979.71	0.00					
6000 — Repeater Expenses										
6100 — Repeater Maintenance	243.21	350.00	(106.79)				243.21	350.00		
6200 — NARCC dues	20.00	20.00					20.00	20.00		
6999 — Repeater Misc.	1,150.00						1,150.00	0.00		
Total 6000 — Repeater Expenses	1,413.21	370.00	1,043.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,413.21	370.00		
Total 5500 — Program Expenses	2,785.50	895.00	1,890.50	1,372.29	525.00					
Total Expense	6,464.18	4,573.00	1,891.18	5,050.97	4,203.00		1,413.21	370.00		
Net Income	(953.59)	(373.00)	(580.59)							

WVARA											
				PROPOSED 2017 BUDGET (BOD 1/4/1017)							
				WVARA Total	Assn	Repeater					
Income											
			4200 — Misc. Income								
			4100 — Program Income								
			4110 — Membership Dues								
			4111 — Indiv. Assn. (\$15)	500.00	500.00						
			4112 — Indiv. Repeater (12)	350.00		350.00					
			4113 — Fam. Assn. (\$20)								
			4114 — Fam. Repeater (\$18)								
			Total 4110 — Membership Dues	850.00	500.00	350.00					
			4150 — Flea Market Reciepts	3,500.00	3,500.00						
			Total 4100 — Program Income								
			4800 — Donations	500.00	500.00						
			Total Income	4,850.00	4,500.00	350.00					
Expense											
			5300 — Flea Market Expenses	2,400.00	2,400.00						
			5100 — Administrative Expenses								
			5110 — Finance Fees Paid	50.00	50.00						
			5120 — Insurance	322.00	322.00						
			5140 — Web Hosting Expense	100.00	100.00						
			5150 — PO Box Rental	70.00	70.00						
			5160 — Officer Awards	30.00	30.00						
			5190 — Misc. Expense	25.00	25.00						
			Total 5100 — Administrative Expenses	597.00	597.00						
			5200 — Membership Expenses								
			5240 — Summer Picnic	90.00	90.00						
			5230 — Holiday Party	500.00	500.00						
			5210 — Badges	100.00	100.00						
			5220 — Meeting Expenses	25.00	25.00						
			Total 5200 — Membership Expenses	715.00	715.00						
			5500 — Program Expenses								
			5520 — Field Day Expenses	500.00	500.00						
			5530 — CQP Expenses	25.00	25.00						
			5540 — Misc. Program Expenses	200.00	200.00						
			6000 — Repeater Expenses								
			6100 — Repeater Maintenance	350.00		350.00					
			6200 — NARCC dues	20.00		20.00					
			6999 — Repeater Misc.			0.00					
			Total 6000 — Repeater Expenses	370.00	0.00	370.00					
			Total 5500 — Program Expenses	1,095.00	725.00	370.00					
			Total Expense	4,807.00	4,437.00	370.00					
			Net Income	43.00	63.00	(20.00)					
			Projected Assets								
				Total Assets	Association	Repeater					
			2016 Start	10,764.42	7,315.51	3,448.91					
			2016 EOY	9,810.83	7,217.13	2,593.70					
			2017 EOY Proposed	9,853.83	7,280.13	2,573.70					
			Notes:	Accounts	Transactions						
			4200 — Misc. Income	Savings account interest							
			5110 — Finance Fees Paid	PayPal Fees							
			5220 — Meeting Expenses	0.00 in 2016, 0.00 expected 2017; Will cover gift Mugs for speakers in future							
			5540 — Misc. Program Expenses	2016 Rebuild tower trailer; 2017 Contingency							

Please Join Us!



*68th Annual
International
DX Convention
April 21-23, 2017
Visalia, California*



Full 2.5 Days!
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Contest Forum
YL Forum
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Kevin Smith, KK6VF, 2017-2018

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The Heterodyne is published monthly by the West Valley Amateur Radio Association and sent to all club members via the web. Please obtain permission from the author to re-publish any article in this publication.